

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1776

(Concluded from our last.)

THESE is nothing in Cato's first letter worthy of notice but the following insinuating falsehood: "Grievous as the least restraint of the press must always be, to a people entitled to freedom, it must be the more so, when it is not only unwarranted by those to whom they have committed the care of their liberties, but cannot be warranted by them, consistent with liberty itself."—The rude and unchoicest confusion of persons in the above paragraph, though it throws an obscurity on the meaning, still leaves it discoverable: Who, sir, hath laid any restraint on the liberty of the press? I know of no instance in which the press hath been even the object of notice, in this province, except on account of the Tory letter from Kent county, which was published last spring in the *Pennsylvania Ledger*, and which it was the duty of every good man to detect, because the *honesty* of the press is as great an object to society as the *freedom* of it. If this is the restraint you complain of we know your true character at once; and that it is so, appears evident from the expression which immediately follows the above quotation; your words are, "Nevertheless, we readily submitted to it, while the least colourable pretence could be offered for requiring such a submission." Who submitted, Cato? *we* Whigs, or *we* Tories? Until you clear up this, sir, you must content yourself with being ranked among the rank of the *writing* Tories; because no other body of men can have any pretence to complain of want of freedom of the press. It is not your throwing out now and then a little popular phrase, which can protect you from suspicion; they are only the gildings under which the poison is conveyed, and without which you dared not to renew your attempts on the virtue of the people.

Cato's second letter, or the greatest part thereof, is taken up with the reverence due from us to the persons and authority of the commissioners, whom Cato vainly and ridiculously styles *AMBASSADORS* coming to negotiate a peace. How came Cato not to be a little better informed to the secret? The act of parliament which describes the powers of these men hath been in this city upwards of a month, and in the hands of Cato's friends. No, sir, they are not the *ambassadors of peace*, but the distributors of pardons, mischief and insult. Cato discovers a gross ignorance of the British constitution, in supposing that these men can be empowered to act as ambassadors. To prevent his future errors I will set him right. The present war differs from many others in this instance, viz. that it is not carried on under the prerogative of the crown as other wars have always been, but under the authority of the whole legislative power united, and as the barriers which stand in the way of a negotiation, are not proclamations but acts of parliament, it evidently follows, that were even the king of England here in person, he could not ratify the terms or condition of a reconciliation; because in the single character of king he could not stipulate for the repeal of any acts of parliament, neither can the parliament stipulate for him. There is no body of men more jealous of their privileges than the commons; because they sell them: Mark that, Cato.

I have not the least doubt upon me but that their business (exclusive of granting us pardons) is downright bribery and corruption. It is the machine by which they effect all their plans. We ought to view them as enemies of a most dangerous species, and he who means not to be corrupted by them will enter his protest in time. Are they not the very men who are paid in every measure for voting against us, and ought we not to suspect their designs? Can we view the barbarians as friends? Would it be prudent to trust the viper in our very bosoms; or to suffer them to ramble at large among us, while such doubtful characters as Cato have a being upon the continent? Yet let their persons be safe from injury and outrage—but trust them not. Our business with them is short and explicit, viz. We are desirous of peace, Gentlemen; we are ready to ratify the terms, and will virtuously fulfil the conditions thereof; but we should deserve all and every misery which tyranny can inflict; were we, after suffering such a repetition of savage barbarities, to come under your government again.

Cato, by way of stealing into credit, says, that "the contest we are engaged in is founded on the most noble and virtuous principles which can animate the mind of man. We are contending" (says he) against "an arbitrary ministry, for the rights of Englishmen." No, Cato, we are now contending against an arbitrary king, to get clear of his tyranny. While the dispute raged in words only, it might be called "contending with the ministry," but since it is broken out into open war, it is high time to be done with such silly and water-gruel definitions. But it suits not Cato to speak the truth. It is his interest to dress up the feathered savage in the mildest colours. Cato's patent for a large tract of land is yet unfinished. Alas poor Cato!

Cato proceeds very importantly to tell us, "that the eyes of all Europe are upon us." This stale and hackneyed phrase hath had a regular descent from many of the king's speeches down to several of the speeches in parliament; from thence, it took a turn among the little wits and bucks of St. James's, till after suffering all the torture of senseless repetition, and being reduced to a state of vagrancy, was charitably picked up to embellish the second letter of Cato. It is truly of the bugbear kind, contains no meaning, and the very meaning, and the very thing it discovers a barrenness of invention. It signifies nothing to tell us, "that the eyes of all Europe are upon us," unless we had likewise told us what they are looking at us for; which, as he hath not done, I will. They are looking at us, Cato, in hopes of seeing

a final separation between Britain and the colonies, that they, the *lookers on*, may partake of a free and uninterrupted trade with the whole continent of America. Cato! thou reasonest wrong.

For the present, sir, farewell. I have seen thy folioquy and despise it. Remember, thou hast thrown me the glove, Cato, and either thee or I must tire. I fear not the field of fair debate, but thou hast stepped aside and made it personal—thou hast tauntingly called on me by name; and if I cease to hunt thee from every lane and lurking hole of mischief, and bring thee not a trembling culprit before the public bar, then brand me with reprobach, by naming me in the list of your confederates.

THE FORRESTER.

CASSANDRA to CATO.

SIR,

THOUGH the *Common Man's* advice has come rather too late, as Cato and Hamlet can witness, though his manner of stating the points to be discussed decides to which party he belongs; though he has studiously evaded the main question, and thereby shewn the public that *security to our rights* forms no share of the debate he wishes to open; and though the manner in which he attempts to expose Cato and Cassandra evidently roves whose faults he is most inclined to conceal; yet I heartily join him in his censure on personal reflections. I thank him too for his candour in tacitly informing the public that you have not come to the point as yet, though you have already published five letters, and heartily close with his proposal of laying aside all personality. I shall therefore proceed to the main point; and if you are willing to enter the lists as a fair antagonist, and meet me on the ground of reason and argument, on that ground will Cassandra meet you: but if, contrary to your own proposal, and the advice of your friend, you continue to amuse your countrymen with declamation and assertion, and study to terrify rather than inform, to address their passions rather than enlighten their understandings, I shall still be personal. Your talent lies in strong painting and declamation, and you expect to hold up such a terrific picture to the imaginations of the people, as will effectually frighten them into submission; but the exhibition of your person at the side of your productions will ever prove a perfect antidote to their poison. Giving you this fair warning, I shall now proceed to your third, fourth, and fifth letters, and nothing which can point out the man shall drop from my pen until Cato gives occasion for it.

I agree with the *Common Man* thus far, that some propositions he mentions ought, *one day*, to be discussed; but as there is one point not only prior to any of them, but of infinitely greater importance than them all, viz. *an absolute security for the enjoyment of our liberties*, I must and will insist on the discussion of this point first, as not only *prior in order*, but most essential; and when it shall be fairly proved that our rights can be as effectually secured in a state of dependency as in an independent state, then, and not before, will be the proper time to examine which would be *most to our advantage*. We entered the contest with a determination to secure our rights at every hazard. This is therefore what we are first to provide for. If two ways of equal security should present themselves, then will come on the other question, viz. *which will not only secure our liberties but bring us the greatest advantages besides*. Now when Cato, the *Common Man*, or any other man, shall exhibit a plan by which we can absolutely secure our liberties and continue dependent, then Cassandra will be ready to enter upon the discussion of this point. But Cassandra assures Cato, the *Common Man*, and every other man, that no topical proposals of any man will turn his eyes from the main object until he sees a way of *permanent security to our rights*; and he trusts his countrymen, who first armed for this purpose, will still continue of that mind, and then he fears neither the threats nor efforts of Cato and the aristocratical junto, who are straining every nerve to frustrate our virtuous endeavours, and to make the common and middle class of people their *beasts of burden*. Those freemen who nobly refuse to be ridden by a king, lords and commons, will scarcely be tame enough to take Cato and his party on their backs. I shall therefore proceed. And

Passing, for the present, those parts of your letters which contain nothing but the most illiberal abuse and scurrilous invectives against committees, conventions, &c, I shall take up your *political creed* and examine with the greatest freedom the arguments on which you have founded your faith. You believe, "That the true interest of America lies in a reconciliation with Great-Britain on constitutional principles, and that you wish 'it upon none else.'" Sir, I earnestly intreat you as you wish not to mislead your dear countrymen, to explain what you understand by a *reconciliation on constitutional principles*, that I may not mistake your meaning. It will save much writing on both sides to give such definitions of general terms as we are determined to abide by. I wish to see the *whole truth* laid fairly before the people, and that they may coolly consider, and with the utmost impartiality weigh every circumstance, and choose that alone which promises the *greatest security* to their rights and privileges, and affords them the *surest prospect of wealth and happiness*. I shall therefore cheerfully define every term which Cato may think dubious or calculated to mislead; and I demand the same of Cato. If he is the *honest* man he *deserves* to appear he will not refuse me. Let us canvass *every* thing to the bottom, and let not dark hints, unproved assertions, or ungenerous insinuations against the designs of incorruptible patriots be hereafter palmed on the people for argument; but

when truth is exhibited to them in the fullest and fairest manner, let them judge for themselves. Upon due information I doubt not they will judge right; and that judgment I am resolved to abide by.

But why does Cato labour so incessantly to bias his reader by so many and such long and pathetic harangues on the horrors of war and its powers of destruction: *slavery* is certainly a much more terrible evil in every respect than war. For the evils of war are both tolerable and temporary; while the miseries of slavery are intolerable and endless. War may cut off thousands in the bloom of their youth; but slavery destroys the very seeds of generation, not only in the animal but vegetable world. How does it look, Cato, in a patriot of your magnitude to be continually haranguing on the horrors of war at a time when every thing we hold dear and valuable depends on the success of our arms. Were you in your beloved mother country, and the pretender with a foreign force, suppose, I suppose, ravaging her coasts, would you harangue on these horrors to discourage resistance? I console myself at great uncertainty what part you would act on such an occasion; but I strongly presume that in case you did you would be accounted a disaffected traitor; and treated accordingly. But I ask, pardon, sir, you don't like to be questioned, I suppose were you in the councils of the enemy your native appetite for peace would soon put an end to their murderous designs; you are not candidly, or scrupulously, neither, for you declare you will turn out against us if there be any attempt to let the French and English by the ears. Take no help! Take no help! Fight alone, Whigs, till you are all cut off, and then we Tories will submit and have the whole. This is the language of Cato. Now, though I am confident that your publications are intended to reduce us to slavery, as you can be that mine propose a continuation of the war, and though I can more easily prove the one than you can the other; yet I have not endeavoured, by alarming descriptions of the miseries of slavery, to prejudice my reader against the arguments of my opponents. Cassandra has no point to carry, and therefore detests such shifts. God forbid! that I should ever consider my own interest as separate from the general interest of mankind! And with equal fervency of devotion I pray that all who have may be finally defeated in their attempts against these colonies. You have filled nearly the one half of the five letters you have already published with horrible descriptions alone. Do you imagine, Cato, that we are all affected with nervous complaints; and that you can do more for your cause by alarming our fears, than informing our judgments? If this be not your design, pray publish as many, as terrible, and as animated descriptions of the miseries of slavery as you have done on the horrors of war; and then leave the people to judge which they would choose. Don't let us throw them into a panic and confusion, and then desire them to examine with coolness and deliberation. There is a dignity in honesty, and a pleasing fortitude in conscious integrity, which I could wish Cato to experience. The subject demands a clear, plain, full, rational and manly discussion, and it ought to have it. It is certainly worthy of all the labour we can bestow upon it. *Liberty or slavery is now the question*. Let us but fairly discover to the inhabitants of these colonies on which side liberty has erected her banner, and we will leave it to them to determine whether they would choose liberty though accompanied with war, or slavery attended by peace.

The present contest is a contest of constitutions, and the war a war of legislatures. The common wars of nations are the wars of one crowned head against another, in which the people have little share and are as little consulted. The crowned head on each side declares war or negotiates peace without consulting with them. But this war is a war between the British parliament and the colonial assemblies; it is, in fact, become a war between the people of Great-Britain and the people of America; and though both have heretofore acknowledged the same king, and he in duty ought to have remained neutral; yet as he has joined the British parliament against us, he is become a party in the quarrel. Hence, so far as he present is a contest of constitutions, the parliament has evidently won the field; for the whole force of the legislature of Great-Britain has been, from the first day of the controversy, armed against us, but we have in no one instance been able to call forth the strength of our legislatures to oppose; nay, we have constantly had them against us ready to join the foe. I ask, how happens this, Cato? Why are you so in love with such a constitution? As you are not fond of answering my queries, I will endeavour to answer them myself. It is because our legislatures are dependent on our *very enemy*, and theirs is independent of us. Our constitutional connexion with Britain gives her so prodigious an advantage over us, that if we had strictly adhered to our chartered constitutions, we would have been enslaved before this time. And it will ever be so, as long as we are dependent.

Both the king and parliament of Great-Britain are the choice of the people of Great-Britain; but though our assemblies are our choice, our governors are not; they are either nominated by the king or Great-Britain, or some one of his British subjects, which effectually destroys their utility to us in this and every such controversy, which has already, or is likely hereafter to happen. Their salaries, though the gift of the people, are evidently no counterpoise to their nomination. It facts can prove any thing. And for this plain reason, that though we grant the wages, yet it rests in the power of the king whether they shall enjoy it or not; so that appointment the continuance of it depends entirely on him.

(The remainder will be in our next.)

By several gentlemen lately arrived from Checonecto, in the province of Nova Scotia, we have undoubted intelligence, that that government had endeavoured to enlist part of the inhabitants to act against their American brethren, which they nobly refused; in consequence whereof the governor had ordered the militia to be called together, and a number to be drafted, when their officers were told by the men, that if they attempted to draft, they would fire upon them; this stopped their proceeding any further, and the men clubbed their muskets and marched home.

NEW-YORK, April 8.

Tuesday afternoon 5 battalions of the continental troops now stationed here, were reviewed by his excellency general Heath, on the green, near the liberty pole: they made a martial appearance, being well armed, and went through their exercise much to the satisfaction of a great concourse of the inhabitants of this city.

Last Tuesday night a party of about 150 of our troops landed on Bedlow's Island, about two miles from this city, and destroyed some works that had been erected there by the crew of his majesty's ship the Asia, and burnt down a house that was supposed to be possessed by some Tories: the man of war fired two shot at our people, but they came off unhurt, and brought with them some intrenching tools, poultry, &c. &c.

The same evening an attempt was made to set fire to the air turnace, near this city, by some people that got there in a boat, and supposed from the map of war; but they were discovered before they could put their design in execution, and made off with precipitation.

Wednesday night last arrived here from the camp at Cambridge, brigadier general Putnam; and the evening before col. Miffin, quarter-master general of the American army, arrived here from the same place.

A sloop of war, supposed to be the Nautilus, is arrived at the narrows.

April 10. Monday night one thousand of the continental troops, stationed here, went over and took possession of Governor's Island, and began to fortify it; the same night a regiment went over to Red-Hook and fortified that place likewise.

On Saturday last the continental fleet fell in with the Glasgow man of war, off Montock point, at the east end of Long Island, when admiral Hopkins, being the foremost ship, attacked the Glasgow, upon which a hot engagement ensued, but before another ship could come up, the Glasgow sheered off with considerable damage. The fleet afterwards took a bomb brig and three tenders, all which they carried safe into New-London on Sunday morning.

This morning arrived in the harbour twenty-three transports, from the eastward, having on board the brigade commanded by general Sullivan.

The following proclamation was published by his excellency general Washington, on his taking possession of the town of Boston.

By his Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq; General and commander in chief of the Thirteen United Colonies.

WHEREAS the ministerial army has abandoned the town of Boston, and the forces of the United Colonies under my command, are in possession of the same: I have therefore thought it necessary, for the preservation of peace, good order, and discipline, to publish the following orders, that no person offending therein may plead ignorance as an excuse for their misconduct.

All officers and soldiers are hereby ordered to live in the strictest peace and amity with the inhabitants; and no inhabitant, or other person, employed in his lawful business in the town, is to be molested in his person or property, on any pretence whatever.

If any officer or soldier shall presume to strike, imprison, or otherwise ill treat any of the inhabitants, they may depend on being punished with the utmost severity; and if any officer or soldier shall receive an insult from any of the inhabitants, he is to seek redress in a legal way, and no other.

Any non-commissioned officer or soldier, or others under my command, who shall be guilty of robbing or plundering in the town, are to be immediately confined, and will be most rigidly punished. All officers are therefore ordered to be very vigilant in the discovery of such offenders, and report their names and crime to the commanding officer in the town as soon as may be.

The inhabitants and others are called upon to make known to the quarter-master-general, or any of his deputies, all stores belonging to the ministerial army, that may remain or be secreted in the town: Any person or persons whatever, that shall be known to conceal any of the said stores, or appropriate them to his or their own use, will be considered as an enemy to America, and treated accordingly.

The select men and other magistrates of the town, are desired to return to the commander in chief, the names of all or any person or persons they may suspect of being employed as spies upon the continental army, that they may be dealt with accordingly.

All officers of the Continental army, are enjoined to assist the civil magistrates in the execution of their duty, and to promote peace and good order. They are to prevent, as much as possible, the soldiers from frequenting tippling houses, and strolling from their posts. Particular notice will be taken of such officers as are inattentive and remiss in their duty, and on the contrary, such only as are active and vigilant will be entitled to future favour and promotion.

Given under my hand, at head-quarters, in Cambridge, the 21st day of March, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

PHILADELPHIA.

In CONGRESS, April 6, 1776.

Resolved, That any goods, wares and merchandizes, except staves and empty casks, other than shaken or knock'd down casks for molasses, may be exported from the thirteen united colonies, by the inhabitants thereof, and by the people of all such countries as are not subject to the king of Great-Britain, to any parts of the world, which are not under the dominion of the said king; provided that no vessel be permitted to export any greater number of shaken or knock'd down melaf-

ses casks than the same vessel is capable of carrying when they shall be filled with molasses.

Resolved, That any goods, wares and merchandize, except such as are of the growth, production or manufacture of, or brought from any country under the dominion of the king of Great-Britain, and except East-India tea, may be imported from any other parts of the world, to the thirteen united colonies, by the inhabitants thereof, and by the people of all such countries as are not subjects to the said king, liable however to all such duties and impositions as now are or may hereafter be laid by any of the said colonies.

Resolved, That nothing herein contained shall be understood to prevent such future commercial regulations as shall be thought just and necessary by these united colonies or their respective legislatures.

Resolved, That no slaves be imported into any of the thirteen united colonies.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions in the several colonies to appoint proper officers at convenient places in their respective colonies to take bonds in adequate penalties, for observing the regulations made by the congress or assemblies or conventions, concerning trade, and for securing the observation of such parts of the association as are not inconsistent therewith, and that the obligor shall within eighteen months after the departure of the vessel, produce to such officer a certificate under the hands and seals of three or more reputable merchants residing at the port or place where the cargo shall be delivered, that the same was there unloaded, and take manifests upon oath of the cargoes exported and imported, and keep fair accounts and entries thereof, give bills of health when desired, grant registers shewing the property of the vessels cleared out, and sign certificates that the requisites for qualifying vessels to trade have been complied with, and that the fees of the said officers be stated by the respective assemblies or conventions—Provided always that no prosecution upon any of the said bonds shall be commenced but within three years after the date thereof.

Resolved, That all goods, wares and merchandize, except such as are made prize of, which shall be imported directly or indirectly from Great-Britain or Ireland, into any of these united colonies, contrary to the regulations established by congress, shall be forfeited and disposed of agreeable to such rules as shall be made by the several assemblies or conventions, and shall be liable to prosecution and condemnation in any court erected or to be erected for the determination of maritime affairs in the colony where the seizure shall be made.

By order of congress,

JOHN HANCOCK, president.

April 13. General Putnam, commander in chief at New-York, has given positive orders that the ministerial fleet there shall no longer be supplied with provisions, and that all communication between them and the shore be entirely stopped.

"In fight of the capes of Virginia, April 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN,

"I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that at one P. M. this day, I fell in with the sloop Edward, belonging to the Liverpool frigate. She engaged us near two glaffes. They killed two of our men, and wounded two more. We shattered her in a terrible manner as you will see. We killed and wounded several of her crew. I shall give you a particular account of the powder and arms taken out of her, as well as my proceedings in general. I have the happiness to acquaint you, that all our people behaved with much courage. I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

JOHN BARRY."

To the honourable John Hancock, Esq; or any of the marine committee.

Extract of a letter from Cambridge, per express.

"This instant an express arrived from governor Cooke, with an account that a man of war was just arrived in the harbour of New-Port, and that 27 sail of vessels supposed to be part of the fleet from Boston, are within Seconet-Point. General Sullivan's brigade, which left Cambridge the 29th of March, was ordered to file off immediately for Providence, and general Green's, which was to march the 1st of April, was ordered to repair immediately to the same place."

KINGSTON (Jamaica) Dec. 23.

On Thursday afternoon was brought into Port-Royal harbour the sloop Dove, capt. Bull, belonging to Rhode-Island. This vessel had loaded at Cape Nicholas Mole, with French produce, and on her passage homeward was met by his majesty's ship Maidstone, Allan Gardiner, Esq; commander, who seized her. We are informed the Maidstone was then in chase of a brigantine and sloop, the latter laden with gunpowder, and came out of Cape François, which was yesterday sent in.

On Thursday evening arrived here from Port au Prince, L'Amphitrite, a French frigate commanded by le Count de Gras, with the congratulations of the new governor of Hispaniola, to his excellency Sir Basil Keith.

ST. JOHN'S (Antigua) Feb. 3.

Yesterday the following vessels were condemned at a court of vice-admiralty, held at the court-house in the town of St. John, viz.—Ship Two Brothers, loaded with flour, bread, spermaceti candles, staves, bees wax, &c. taken by his majesty's ship Experiment, Robert Keeler, Esq;—Brigantine Greyhound, with flour, pork, herrings, staves, heading, bricks, bar-iron, a negro woman, &c. taken by the Argo, William Garner, Esq;—Sloop Two Brothers, with live stock, cheese, onions, beef, pork, bread, bullock, &c. taken by the Viper, Samuel Graves, Esq.

SAVANNAH (in Georgia) Feb. 14.

His excellency the governor, with his family, left this place last Sunday night, and went on board his majesty's ship Scarborough, lying at Tybee.

Last Thursday capt. Wright arrived at Tybee, in a schooner from Grenada. And next day a large transport ship arrived with soldiers, from Boston. Lord William Campbell is on board his majesty's ship Syren.

Feb. 21. A transport ship arrived at Cockspur, on the 12th instant from Boston, with more soldiers.

His majesty's ship Kaven failed from Tybee on Saturday morning, on a cruise. His majesty's ship Cherokee, the two transport ships which lately arrived from Boston, a sloop, and three small vessels, are now lying at anchor within three miles of this town.

The following is a copy of his excellency the governor's letter, which was read on Friday last, at a meeting of the inhabitants of the town and district of Savannah.

On his majesty's service.

To the hon. James Mackay, Esq; and the rest of the members of his majesty's council at Savannah.

On board his majesty's ship Scarborough, at Cockspur, February the 13th, 1776.

Honourable gentlemen,

AFTER using my best endeavours, for upwards of three weeks, to prevail on these, in whose hands the present ruling powers are, that the commanders of his majesty's ships here might obtain assurances that they might come to town, and have a free intercourse with me, without receiving any insult from the people assembled in and about town, also that the king's ships might be supplied with provisions, on paying the full price or value of it; and finding that the last message relative to these matters, which I desired the representatives of the town of Savannah to deliver to the persons exercising those powers, was so lightly treated; and so little regarded, as that, although delivered on Tuesday morning the 6th instant, yet I received no kind of answer to it for five days, nor did I understand whether it was meant to give me any answer or not; and well knowing that it was essential to his majesty's service, and the welfare of this province, that I should have an interview with the king's officers here; for these reasons, and many others, which you were made acquainted with, and approved of, I determined, at all events, to attempt coming down here, where I arrived safe at three o'clock yesterday morning. And after having examined, and duly weighed and considered, my several letters from England, and general Howe at Boston, and after having had a full conversation with his majesty's officers here, I have the greatest satisfaction to be able to affirm, from the best authority, that the forces now here will not commit any hostilities against this province, although full sufficient to reduce and overcome every opposition that could be attempted to be made; and that nothing is meant, or wanted, but a friendly intercourse, and a supply of fresh provisions. This may be entirely relied upon; this his majesty's officers have an undoubted right to expect, and what they insist upon; and this I not only now solemnly require in his majesty's name, but also as (probably) the best friend the people in Georgia have, advise them, without the least hesitation, to comply with, or it may not be in my power to ensure them the continuance of the peace and quietude they now have, if it may be called so.

His majesty has been graciously pleased to grant me leave to return to England, and (whatever may be thought) my regard for the people and province is such that I cannot avoid (and possibly for the last time) exhorting the people to save themselves and posterity from that total ruin and destruction which (although they may not yet) I most clearly see is at the threshold of their doors; and I cannot leave them without again warning them, in the most earnest and friendly manner, to desist from their present plans and resolutions. It is still in their power, and if they will enable me to do it, I will (as far as I can) engage to give, and endeavour to obtain for them, full pardon and forgiveness for all past crimes and offences; and this I conjure them to consider well, and most seriously of, before it is too late. But, let things happen as they may, be it remembered, that I this day, in the king's name, offer the people of Georgia the olive branch, that most desirable object, and inestimable blessing, the return of peace and happiness to them and their posterity.

Capt. Barclay has desired me to notify, that he is willing and ready to give every assistance in his power to the captains of all such merchant ships as may be legally cleared out to enable them to proceed on their respective voyages. I am also to acquaint you, that the detention of the schooner on Friday or Saturday last, proceeded entirely from a mistake by the officer who commanded the armed sloop, and that if the owner will send down, the schooner will not only be delivered up, but any reasonable price paid for the damaged rice that was on board, part of which has been used to feed hogs and poultry; or they may take it away again. I am also to mention, that the same armed sloop will be sent up to-morrow to Four Mile Point, in order to get fresh water, and for no other purpose. This letter, which I consider of the utmost consequence and importance to the whole people of Georgia, I must desire you will be pleased to communicate to the congress, if sitting, and if not, to those who are called the council of safety, and especially to the inhabitants of the town and province in general, and acquaint them that I shall expect their full and clear answer to every part of it in a reasonable time.

I am, with perfect esteem,

Gentlemen, your most obedient and faithful servant,
JAMES WRIGHT.

CHARLESTOWN (S. C.) March 8.

We hear from Savannah, that two armed schooners and a sloop had got above the town, through Back-river, and had taken a brigantine and schooner lying there; that the Syren was arrived in the river; that some more large vessels were in the offing; that the troops, said to be about 5 or 600, were in transports near the town; that it was expected they would attempt to land, to prevent which upwards of 1000 Georgia and Carolina militia-men were in Savannah; and that there is too great reason to fear there will be much bloodshed.

The troops are said to be the 40th regiment, and a detachment of marines. Majors Gram and Maitland are among them; also capt. Pitcairn, son of the major of that name, who was in the Lexington and Bunker-hill engagements, and killed in the latter. It is reported they have received a reinforcement from St. Augustine, and have sent for more.

Copy of a letter just received by express from the council of safety Georgia.

In the COUNCIL of SAFETY.

Gentlemen, Savannah, March 4, 1776. THE intimate connection between this and your province in a particular manner renders it necessary to acquaint you with the occurrences in the former, from the date of our last; to which, and the dispatch preceding, we refer you.

Our dispositions in the evening of the 2d were such as appeared to our officers the most likely to prevent the

landing of our enemy; and so, if they should make their landing good, either above or below the town, to prevent their getting in. However, notwithstanding our vigilance, they, by collusion with the masters and others on board the merchant shipping, which hauled near the shore of Hutchinson's island in the night time, got on board the shipping about four o'clock yesterday morning, to the number, as far as we are competent to judge from the observations we made, and the intelligence we received, of between 3 and 300, where they effected to conceal themselves.

We had our fears respecting these shipping, and therefore kept a good watch upon them; but it was impossible for sentinels on this shore to detect them in boarding from the other, the vessels being betwixt.

Capt. Rice, who commanded a boat of observation, was sent on board the shipping about nine o'clock, to order the rigging on shore, and was, without any noise, or the smallest knowledge of us, kidnapped. This we did not know till about half an hour afterwards. Two sailors, under pretence of coming on shore for clothes, gave information of the troops being on board the shipping, and of Rice's being taken. About 300 men were then immediately marched to Yamacraw, opposite the shipping, with three four pounders, and threw up a breast work. The armed schooner Hinchinbrook, of guns, with a number of men on board (which, with others, went up the Back-river in the afternoon of the day preceding) about this time set sail down the South-river, with intent, no doubt, of covering the landing of the troops from on board the merchant shipping; but being continually fired at by two companies of rifle-men who were placed in ambush, she was obliged to come very slowly, and often came to, and returned a very smart fire at every place where the rifle-men fired from, until the tide was spent, and she could not get down. During the course of this firing only one of our men got wounded, and that slightly in the thigh; on board several were seen to fall.

In town we had exhibited a still more interesting scene. We found the officers and men clamorous about the capture and detention of Rice; and two gentlemen, lieutenant Daniel Roberts of the St. John's rangers, and Mr. Raymond Demeré of St. Andrew's parish, solicited, and were permitted, to go on board to demand a surrender of Rice and his people. They accordingly divested themselves of arms, and were rowed by a negro on board a vessel, in which were capt. Bar lay the commodore, and major Grant; and these officers, contrary to all the principles which cement society, and govern mankind, immediately arrested our deputies, and yet detain them as prisoners. We waited with anxious expectation for near half an hour, when we demanded our deputies by the help of a trumpet, without getting any other but insulting answers. Whereupon we fired two 4 pounders directly into them, and then they informed us that they would send an answer in writing; which they presently after did, signed by lieutenant Roberts and Mr. Demeré, purporting that if we would send two of the persons in whom the people most confided, they would treat with them.

Capt. Screven, of the St. John's rangers, and capt. Baker, of the St. John's rifle-men, chagrined, no doubt (the former particularly on account of his lieutenant) by the detention of our deputies, took about a dozen of rifle-men in a boat, and rowed directly under the stern of capt. Inglis, in whose vessel were a great number of soldiery, and in peremptory terms demanded their deputies, and were answered, after one shot from capt. Baker, by a discharge down directly upon them, of near two hundred shot, both from swivels and small arms; which was kept up while they were in reach. The captains and men in the boat, not in the smallest degree confuted, or even perhaps disappointed by the attack, fired their rifles, most of them three several times, and as they say, not without execution; and, wonderful to tell, not a man of them killed. One man only received a flug in the fleshy part of his shoulder, which was immediately cut out, without the smallest inconvenience or danger; the spectators all declare, as we now do, that such a providential deliverance has not yet been known.

This unmanly attack, upon a few men in an open boat, produced a general fire from our field-pieces and intrenchments, and as smart a return from two 4 pounders and several swivels from the shipping, which lasted from about 11 o'clock till 4; and although they often fired langridge, which continually whistled about our men, not a single man was even touched; but we have no doubt a number of the enemy met with a worse fate, as they were seen to fall.

About four o'clock we called a council, and determined to have the vessels immediately burnt, and issued orders to col. McIntosh accordingly. Whereupon the Inverness, late capt. McGillivray, loaded with rice and deer-skins, was set on fire, and cut loose. Upon this the soldiers, in the most laughable confusion, got ashore in the marsh, while our rifle men and field-pieces with grape shot were incessantly galling them. The shipping were now also in confusion. Some got up the river under cover of the armed schooner, while others caught the flame; and as night approached, exhibited a scene, as they passed and repassed with the tide, which, in any other but the present times, would be truly horrible, but is now a subject only of gratulation and applause.

The ships of captains Inglis and Wardell, neither got up the river, or on fire. They were ordered on shore, and now are prisoners of capt. Screven, in the country, and their vessels brought down close to the wharf. They were permitted to write to capt. Barclay in the evening, to inform of their situation, and to request an exchange of prisoners, which the latter peremptorily refused.

We have thus given you a particular detail of things as they really happened, to prevent the belief of any erroneous intelligence, and from which you will be competent to judge of our situation.

Col. McIntosh laid before the board a resolution of your congress to aid us, accompanied by a letter from Mr. Lowndes; and we are very glad that you are determined to afford us further assistance. We wish it may arrive in time.

By order of the council of Safety,

WILLIAM EWEN, president.

To the hon. the congress, or council of Safety for South-Carolina.

Printed from the original,

By order of congress,

PETER TIMOTHY, secretary.

On Thursday last arrived here, in 12 days from St. Eustatia, in the armed schooner Calwell, Mr. John W. Stanley, of this place. He sailed from Ocracoke bar the 16th of January, in the brig Sally, captain Ridge, and the 18th of February made the island of Martinique, where the vessel was seized by the Pomona frigate, capt. Young, while she lay becalmed about two miles from the town of St. Pierre, and while Mr. Stanley was gone on shore to obtain permission to anchor there, the Pomona had anchored that night in the harbour of St. Pierre, and came out disguised like a merchantman. A sloop from Fairfield, in the same situation, was taken in company with the Sally.

Mr. Stanley informs, that several vessels arrived in the West-Indies from England while he was there, some of them in short passages, and that from all the prints he could see, and the accounts he could collect, there did not appear the most distant prospect of a reconciliation; but, on the contrary, the ministry were so determined, their majority in the house so great, and their influence among the people in general so extensive, that the few friends we had, and all hopes of their being able to effect any thing in our favour despaired of.

That 40 sail of transports, blown off the coast, had arrived at Antigua within a few weeks. Five of them had sailed for Boston, under convoy of the Viper; the remainder were to sail in a few days, under convoy of the Hind, and several vessels arrived in Antigua with guns, &c. purchased partly in St. Eustatia for that purpose.

That the English islands had been in a state of distress for provisions, which by this time must have been greatly increased, had not 40 or 50 sail of American vessels, chiefly provision, loaded and bound for foreign islands, been seized by the ships of war, and sent into Antigua, St. Kitt's, Dominica, and Nevis; the inhabitants of which islands were so incensed against the Americans, that those who happened to be there were treated with the utmost severity. Some have been shackled and thrown into a dungeon; for only expressing their sentiments; others obliged to quit their property, and fly to the French for that protection they could not find among the English. An instance of the first kind happened in Antigua while Mr. Stanley was in the islands, in the imprisonment of a Mr. Campbell of New-York; and of the second of the flight of Mr. Peter Wykoff of Philadelphia, against whom an information was lodged by John McConnell, that he had seen Mr. Peter Wykoff bear arms about twelve months before in Philadelphia. This was deemed high treason, as appears by a proclamation of governor Shirley, offering a reward of 500l. for apprehending him.

Among the many vessels seized under the prohibitory act are the following, viz. From New York, the sloop Sally, Dodge, Charming Polly, Luxen, America, Campbell, and schooner Polly, Alfine. From Rhode-Island, capt. Sweet. From Fairfield, sloop Diamond, Whitney. From Salem, brig America, Lambert. From Philadelphia, ship Nancy, Kirby, and brig Gregg. From North-Carolina, brig Sally, Ridge, and schooner James Green, cleared by governor Martin. From Georgia, a brig, capt. Peane. From Virginia, a brig. From South-Carolina, brig Union, Boyd. From Connecticut, a sloop, capt. Jones. From New-York, a sloop, capt. Gibbs.

The cruisers are so exceedingly vigilant among the islands, that few vessels escape them. Notwithstanding which, a brig from Baltimore, a ship (libert, captain Monio) from Philadelphia, and two pilot boats from the same place, had got safe to St. Martin's and St. Eustatia early in this month.

The following quantities of powder were shipped from Martinique and Guadaloupe within a few weeks, besides large quantities from the Cape and St. Eustatia, which has caused that article to be as high as 5s. 6d. a pound, and none now to be had even at those extravagant prices.

For New London	20000	Five sail for N. I ondon;	
For Maryland	7000	sent out by N. Shaw,	
For Piscataway	6000	on account of the Uni-	
For ditto	5000	ted Colonies	40000
For ditto	5000	For Plymouth	4000
For Rhode-Island	9000	For S. Carolina	20000
For Calco-Bay	3000	For N. Carolina	2200
			131200

WILLIAMSBURG, April 6.

The Duke of Cumberland Packet arrived a few days ago, from Falmouth, with government dispatches for lord Dunmore. It is said that the English the 23d of January, and brings advice, that lord Cornwallis sailed about the same time, with a number of transports, under convoy of twelve frigates; the place of their destination uncertain. The packet was at South-Carolina, but found lord William Campbell had left the province, and joined governor Martin at Cape Fear. Some gentlemen from below say, that soon after the arrival of this vessel they published a paper which was called a declaration of war against the colonies, and received it with loud acclamations.

It is reported, that lord Dunmore has sent to England, in the Duke of Cumberland packet, which sailed last Wednesday, four French gentlemen, who were lately taken in a vessel bound here from Cape Nicholas Mole, pretending he has found letters upon them which prove their business was to treat with the congress.

ANNAPOLIS, April 18.

MR. GREEN, April 16, 1776.

ENCLOSED you have a copy of Mr. Johnson's much talked of intercepted letter; different parties having given it different constructions, makes it necessary that the whole be published, with a view that every person may read and judge for themselves, thereby frustrating the attempts of such as may be inclined to deceive by misrepresentations; you'll therefore please to give it a place in this week's Gazette, and you will oblige many of your customers, and particularly a constant one.

FROM THE PUBLIC ADVERTISER.

Monday, November 26, 1775.

Our Boston correspondent has favoured us with the following copy of an intercepted letter, from Thomas Johnson, jun. Esq; (one of the Maryland delegates to

heral of the provincial congress; which, as we are assured, we will publish, in order to enable the people of England to form a just opinion of the real intentions of the Congress; and their true motive for framing the petition, brought over by Mr. Penn, as well as of their expectations from it.

Copy of a letter from Thomas Johnson, jun. to Horatio Gates, dated Annapolis, August 18, 1775.

My dear Sir,

I RECEIVED yours of the 1st July, and, in a day or two afterwards, forwarded your letter to Mr. Gates, by my brother, with directions, if he had left Frederick-town, where she then was on a visit, and had no immediate good opportunity, to send a servant on purpose.

I shall be very unhappy that petitioning the king, to which measure I was a friend, should give you or any one else, attached to the cause of America, and liberty, the least uneasiness. You, and I, and America in general, may almost universally wish, in the first place to establish our liberties; our second wish is a re-union with Great-Britain; so may we preserve the empire entire, and the constitutional liberty, founded in whig-gift principles, handed down to us by our ancestors. In order to strengthen ourselves to accomplish these great ends, we ought, in my opinion, to conduct ourselves so, as to unite America, and divide Britain; this, as it appears to me, may most likely be effected by doing rather more, than less, in the peaceable line, than would be required, if our petition is rejected, with contempt, which I think most likely. Will not our friends in England be still more exasperated against the court? and will not our very moderate men, on this side of the water, be compelled to own the necessity of opposing force by force? The rejection of the New York petition was very serviceable to America. If our petition should be granted, the troops will be recalled the obnoxious acts repealed, and we restored to the footing of 1763. If the petition should not be granted, but so far attended to as to lay the ground-work of a negotiation, Britain must, I think, be ruined by the delay: if she refuses us at all, it must be by a most violent and sudden exertion of her force; and if we can keep up a strong party in England, headed by such characters as lord Chatham, and the others, in the present opposition; Bute, Mansfield, and North, and a corrupt majority, cannot draw the British force fully into action against us; our friends will certainly continue such, as long as they see we do not desire to break from a reasonable and beneficial connexion with the mother country; but, if, unhappily for the whole empire, they should once be convinced, by our conduct, that we design to break from that connexion, I am apprehensive, they will thenceforth become our most dangerous enemies; the greatest and first law of self preservation will justify, nay compel it. The cunning Scotchmen and lord North fully feel the force of this reasoning; thence, their industry to make it be believed in England, that we have a scheme of independence, a general turn, they equivocally use, to signify to the friends of liberty, a breaking off all connexion; and to Tories, that we dispute the supremacy of parliament. In the declaratory act is the power of binding us, by its acts, in all cases whatever; the latter we do most certainly dispute, and I trust shall successfully fight against, with the approbation of every honest Englishman.

Lord North's proposition, and consequent resolution of parliament, were insidiously devised to wear the face of peace, and embarrass us in the choice of evils; either to accept and be slaves; or reject and increase the number and power of our enemies: I flatter myself that our petition will present to him only a choice of means injurious to his villainous schemes.

Our convention met the very day of my getting home, the meeting was very full, we sat close many days, by six o'clock in the morning, and by candle light in the evening. Our people were very prompt to do every thing desired; they have appropriated 100,000l. for the defence of this province, a great part of it to be laid out in the military line immediately, part contingently, and the rest for establishing manufactories of salt, salt petre, and gunpowder.

We have an association, ascertaining the necessity and justifiableness of repelling force by force, to be universally signed; and strict resolutions, with regard to our militia; which is to be as comprehensive here, as perhaps in any country in the world, when called to action. We are to be subject to the congressional rules and regulations for the army. A committee of safety composed of sixteen, is, in the recess of the convention, to have the supreme direction. We yet retain the forms of our government, but there is no real force or efficacy in them, if the intelligence we have from England looks like war, I dare say this province will not hesitate to discharge all officers, and go boldly into it at once.

I have not lately heard any thing particular from Virginia that can be depended on; their convention has had a long sitting, and I have no doubt but spirited measures, becoming themselves, and adequate to their circumstances, are adopted. We have the pleasure, now and then, to hear of your successful skirmishes. I am anxious to hear that you have all your riflemen, and am particularly anxious to hear that your militia has run through our young men so much, that, if the business proceeds, notwithstanding the scarcity of men in this and the southern provinces, I believe we must turnish you with a battalion or two; if, as I hope, those who are gone acquire reputation, many of our youth will be on fire; the difficulty now is to regulate and direct the spirit of the people at large; and I verily believe that, instead of their being discouraged by a check on our military achievements, a sore rub would inflame them nearly to madness and desperation. I have already solicited your notice of several young gentlemen from Maryland; lieut. Griffin, and Daniel Dorsey, volunteers with capt. Price's, and Frederick Ridgely, with capt. Cresap's company, and all young men of connection with us; their fathers, with whom I have an intimacy and friendship, are ambitious that they should be regarded by you, and desire I should make a favourable mention of them with that view. You must not be surpris'd, the rank you hold in the opinion of my countrymen must make you the military father of the Maryland youth; I have not a personal acquaintance with these three young gentlemen, but the recommendation for the service is a powerful recommendation.

By several gentlemen lately arrived from Charleston, in the province of Nova Scotia, we have undoubted intelligence, that that government had endeavoured to enlist part of the inhabitants to act against their American brethren, which they nobly refused; in consequence whereof the governor had ordered the militia to be called together, and a number to be drafted, when their officers were told by the men, that if they attempted to draft, they would fire upon them; this stopped their proceeding any further, and the men clubbed their muskets and marched home.

NEW-YORK, April 5.

Tuesday afternoon 5 battalions of the continental troops now stationed here, were reviewed by his excellency general Heath, on the green, near the liberty pole: they made a martial appearance, being well armed, and went through their exercise much to the satisfaction of a great concourse of the inhabitants of this city.

Last Tuesday night a party of about 150 of our troops landed on Redlow's island, about two miles from this city, and destroyed some works that had been erected there by the crew of his majesty's ship the Asia, and burnt down a house that was supposed to be possessed by some Tories: the man of war fired two shot at our people, but they came off unhurt, and brought with them some trenching tools, poultry, &c. &c.

The same evening an attempt was made to set fire to the air furnace, near this city, by some people that got there in a boat, and supped from the man of war; but they were discovered before they could put their design in execution, and made off with precipitation.

Wednesday night last arrived here from the camp at Cambridge, brigadier general Putnam; and the evening before col. Miffin, quarter-master general of the American army, arrived here from the same place.

A sloop of war, supposed to be the Nautilus, is arrived at the narrows.

April 10. Monday night one thousand of the continental troops, stationed here, went over and took possession of Governor's island, and began to fortify it; the same night a regiment went over to Red-Hook and fortified that place likewise.

On Saturday last the continental fleet fell in with the Glasgow man of war, off Montock point, at the east end of Long island, when admiral Hopkins, being the foremost ship, attacked the Glasgow, upon which a hot engagement ensued, but before another ship could come up, the Glasgow sheered off with considerable damage. The fleet afterwards took a bomb brig and three tenders, all which they carried safe into New-London on Sunday morning.

This morning arrived in the harbour twenty-three transports, from the eastward, having on board the brigade commanded by general Sullivan.

The following proclamation was published by his excellency general Washington, on his taking possession of the town of Boston.

By his Excellency **GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq;**
General and commander in chief of the Thirteen United Colonies.

WHEREAS the ministerial army has abandoned the town of Boston, and the forces of the United Colonies under my command, are in possession of the same: I have therefore thought it necessary, for the preservation of peace, good order, and discipline, to publish the following orders, that no person offending therein may plead ignorance as an excuse for their misconduct.

All officers and soldiers are hereby ordered to live in the strictest peace and amity with the inhabitants; and no inhabitant, or other person, employed in his lawful business in the town, is to be molested in his person or property, on any pretence whatever.

If any officer or soldier shall presume to strike, imprison, or otherwise ill treat any of the inhabitants, they may depend on being punished with the utmost severity; and if any officer or soldier shall receive an insult from any of the inhabitants, he is to seek redress in a legal way, and no other.

Any non-commissioned officer or soldier, or others under my command, who shall be guilty of robbing or plundering in the town, are to be immediately confined, and will be most rigidly punished. All officers are therefore ordered to be very vigilant in the discovery of such offenders, and report their names and crime to the commanding officer in the town as soon as may be.

The inhabitants and others are called upon to make known to the quarter-master-general, or any of his deputies, all stores belonging to the ministerial army, that may remain or be secreted in the town: Any person or persons whatever, that shall be known to conceal any of the said stores, or appropriate them to his or their own use, will be considered as an enemy to America, and treated accordingly.

The select men and other magistrates of the town, are desired to return to the commander in chief, the names of all or any person or persons they may suspect of being employed as spies upon the continental army, that they may be dealt with accordingly.

All officers of the Continental army, are enjoined to assist the civil magistrates in the execution of their duty, and to promote peace and good order. They are to prevent, as much as possible, the soldiers from frequenting tippling houses, and strolling from their posts. Particular notice will be taken of such officers as are inattentive and remiss in their duty, and on the contrary, such only as are active and vigilant will be entitled to future favour and promotion.

Given under my hand, at head-quarters, in Cambridge, the 21st day of March, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

PHILADELPHIA.

In CONGRESS, April 6, 1776.

Resolved, That any goods, wares and merchandizes, except staves and empty casks, other than shakers or knock'd down casks for molasses, may be exported from the thirteen united colonies, by the inhabitants thereof, and by the people of all such countries as are not subject to the king of Great-Britain, to any parts of the world, which are not under the dominion of the said king; provided that no vessel be permitted to export any greater number of shakers or knock'd down casks

than they shall be filled with molasses.

Resolved, That any goods, wares and merchandize, except such as are of the growth, production or manufacture of, or brought from any country under the dominion of the king of Great-Britain, and except East-India tea, may be imported from any other parts of the world, to the thirteen united colonies, by the inhabitants thereof, and by the people of all such countries as are not subjects to the said king, liable however to all such duties and impositions as now are or may hereafter be laid by any of the said colonies.

Resolved, That nothing herein contained shall be understood to prevent such future commercial regulations as shall be thought just and necessary by these united colonies or their respective legislatures.

Resolved, That no slaves be imported into any of the thirteen united colonies.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the assemblies and conventions in the several colonies to appoint proper officers at convenient places in their respective colonies to take bonds in adequate penalties, for observing the regulations made by the congress or assemblies or conventions, concerning trade; and for securing the observance of such parts of the association as are not inconsistent therewith; and that the obligor shall within eighteen months after the departure of the vessel, produce to such officer a certificate under the hands and seals of three or more reputable merchants residing at the port or place where the cargo shall be delivered, that the same was there unloaded, and take manifests upon oath of the cargoes exported and imported, and keep fair accounts and entries thereof, give bills of health when desired, grant registers shewing the property of the vessels cleared out, and sign certificates that the requisites for qualifying vessels to trade have been complied with, and that the fees of the said officers be stated by the respective assemblies or conventions—Provided always that no prosecution upon any of the said bonds shall be commenced but within three years after the date thereof.

Resolved, That all goods, wares and merchandize, except such as are made prize of, which shall be imported directly or indirectly from Great-Britain or Ireland, into any of these united colonies, contrary to the regulations established by congress, shall be forfeited and disposed of agreeable to such rules as shall be made by the several assemblies or conventions, and shall be liable to prosecution and condemnation in any court erected or to be erected for the determination of maritime affairs in the colony where the seizure shall be made.

By order of congress,

JOHN HANCOCK, president.

April 13. General Putnam, commander in chief at New-York, has given positive orders that the ministerial fleet there shall no longer be supplied with provisions, and that all communication between them and the shore be entirely stopped.

"In fight of the capes of Virginia, April 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN,

"I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that at one P. M. this day, I fell in with the sloop Edward, belonging to the Liverpool frigate. She engaged us near two glaffes. They killed two of our men, and wounded two more. We shattered her in a terrible manner as you will see. We killed and wounded several of her crew. I shall give you a particular account of the powder and arms taken out of her, as well as my proceedings in general: I have the happiness to acquaint you, that all our people behaved with much courage. I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

JOHN BARRY."

To the honourable John Hancock, Esq;
or any of the marine committee.

Extract of a letter from Cambridge, per express.

"This instant an express arrived from governor Cooke, with an account that a man of war was just arrived in the harbour of New-Port, and that 27 sail of vessels supposed to be part of the fleet from Boston, are within Seconet-Point. General Sullivan's brigade, which left Cambridge the 24th of March, was ordered to file off immediately for Providence, and general Green's, which was to march the 1st of April, was ordered to repair immediately to the same place."

KINGSTON (Jamaica) Dec. 23.

On Thursday afternoon was brought into Port-Royal harbour the sloop Dove, capt. Bull, belonging to Rhode-Island! This vessel had loaded at Cape Nicholas Mole, with French produce, and on her passage homeward was met by his majesty's ship Maidstone, Allan Gardiner, Esq; commander, who seized her. We are informed the Maidstone was then in chase of a brigantine and sloop, the latter laden with gunpowder, and came out of Cape François, which was yesterday sent in.

On Thursday forenoon arrived here from Port au Prince, L'Amphitruon, a French frigate commanded by le Count de Gras, with the congratulations of the new governor of Hispaniola, to his excellency Sir Basil Keith.

ST. JOHN'S (Antigua) Feb. 3.

Yesterday the following vessels were condemned at a court of vice-admiralty, held at the court-house in the town of St. John, viz.—Ship Two Brothers, loaded with flour, bread, spermaceti candles, staves, bees wax, &c. &c. taken by his majesty's ship Experiment, Robert Keeler, Esq;—Brigantine Greyhound, with flour, pork, herrings, staves, heading, bricks, bar-iron, a negro woman, &c. &c. taken by the Argo, William Garnier, Esq;—Sloop Two Brothers, with live stock, cheese, onions, beef, pork, bread, bulion, &c. taken by the Viper, Samuel Graves, Esq.

SAVANNAH (in Georgia) Feb. 14.

His excellency the governor, with his family, left this place last Sunday night, and went on board his majesty's ship Scarborough, lying at Tybee.

Last Thursday capt. Wright arrived at Tybee, in a schooner from Grenada. And next day, a large transport ship arrived with soldiers, from Boston. Lord William Campbell is on board his majesty's ship Syren.

Feb. 21. A transport ship arrived at Cockspur, on the 12th instant from Boston, with more soldiers.

His majesty's ship Raven sailed from Tybee on Saturday morning, on a cruise. His majesty's ship Cherokee, that we transported which lately arrived from Boston, a sloop, and three small vessels, are now lying at anchor within three miles of this town.

On the 14th inst. a copy of the following letter, was received from the inhabitants of the town and district of Savannah.

On his majesty's service.

To the hon. James Mackay, Esq; and the rest of the members of his majesty's council at Savannah.

On board his majesty's ship Scarborough, at Cockspur, February the 15th, 1776.

Noble and gentlemen,

AFTER using my best endeavours, for upwards of three weeks, to prevail on these, in whose hands the present ruling powers are, that the commanders of his majesty's ships here might obtain assurances that they might come to town, and have a free intercourse with me, without receiving any insult from the people assembled in and about town, also that the king's ships might be supplied with provisions, on paying the full price or value of it; and finding that the last message relative to these matters, which I desired the representatives of the town of Savannah to deliver to the persons exercising those powers, was so lightly treated; and so little regarded, as that, although delivered on Tuesday morning the 6th instant, yet I received no kind of answer to it for five days, nor did I understand whether it was meant to give me any answer or not; and well knowing that it was essential to his majesty's service, and the welfare of this province, that I should have an interview with the king's officers here, for these reasons, and many others, which you were made acquainted with, and approved of, I determined, at all events, to attempt coming down here, where I arrived safe at three o'clock yesterday morning. And after having examined, and duly weighed and considered, my several letters from England, and general Howe at Boston, and after having had a full conversation with his majesty's officers here, I have the greatest satisfaction to be able to affirm, from the best authority, that the forces now here, will not commit any hostilities against this province, although full sufficient to reduce and overcome every opposition that could be attempted to be made; and that nothing is meant, or wanted, but a friendly intercourse, and a supply of fresh provisions. This may be entirely relied upon; this his majesty's officers have an undoubted right to expect, and what they insist upon; and this I not only now solemnly require in his majesty's name, but also as (probably) the best friend the people in Georgia have, advise them, without the least hesitation, to comply with, or it may not be in my power to ensure them the continuance of the peace and quietude they now have, if it may be called so.

His majesty has been graciously pleased to grant me leave to return to England, and (whatever may be thought) my regard for the people and province is such that I cannot avoid (and possibly for the last time) exhorting the people to save themselves and posterity from that total ruin and destruction which (although they may not yet) I most clearly see is at the threshold of their doors; and I cannot leave them without again warning them, in the most earnest and friendly manner, to desist from their present plans and resolutions. It is still in their power, and if they will enable me to do it, I will (as far as I can) engage to give, and endeavour to obtain for them, full pardon and forgiveness for all past crimes and offences; and this I conjure them to consider well, and most seriously of, before it is too late. But, let things happen as they may, be it remembered, that I this day, in the king's name, offer the people of Georgia the olive branch, that most desirable object, and inestimable blessing, the return of peace and happiness to them and their posterity.

Capt. Barclay has desired me to notify, that he is willing and ready to give every assistance in his power to the captains of all such merchant ships as may be legally cleared out to enable them to proceed on their respective voyages. I am also to acquaint you, that the detention of the schooner on Friday or Saturday last, proceeded entirely from a mistake by the officer who commanded the armed sloop, and that if the owner will send down, the schooner will not only be delivered up, but any reasonable price paid for the damaged rice that was on board, part of which has been used to feed boys and poultry; or they may take it away again. I am also to mention, that the same armed sloop will be sent up to-morrow to Four Mile Point, in order to get fresh water, and for no other purpose. This letter, which I consider of the utmost consequence and importance to the whole people of Georgia, I must desire you will be pleased to communicate to the congress, if sitting, and if not, to those who are called the council of safety, and especially to the inhabitants of the town and province in general, and acquaint them that I shall expect their full and clear answer to every part of it in a reasonable time.

I am, with perfect esteem,

Gentlemen, your most obedient and faithful servant,
JAMES WRIGHT.

CHARLESTOWN (S. C.) March 1.

We hear from Savannah, that two armed schooners and a sloop had got above the town, through Back-river, and had taken a brigantine and schooner lying there; that the Syren was arrived in the river, that some more large vessels were in the offing; that the troops, said to be about 5 or 600, were in transports near the town; that it was expected they would attempt to land, to prevent which upwards of 1000 Georgia and Carolina militia-men were in Savannah; and that there is too great reason to fear there will be much bloodshed.

The troops are said to be the 40th regiment, and a detachment of marines. Major Gram and Maitland are among them, also capt. Pitcairn, son of the major of that name, who was in the Lexington and Bunker-hill engagements, and killed in the latter. It is reported they have received a reinforcement from St. Augustine, and have sent for more.

Copy of a letter just received by express from the council of safety Georgia.

In the COUNCIL of SAFETY.

Gentlemen, Savannah, March 4, 1776.

THE intimate connection between this and your province in a particular manner renders it necessary to acquaint you with the occurrences in the former, and the date of our last; to which, and the dispatch preceding, we refer you.

Our dispositions in the evening of the 2d were such as appeared to our officers the most likely to prevent the

their landing good, when about 10 o'clock, we saw them coming, and their getting in. However, notwithstanding our vigilance, they, by collusion with the masters and others on board the merchant shipping, which sailed near the shore of Hutchinson's Island in the night time, got on board the shipping about four o'clock yesterday morning, to the number, as far as we are competent to judge from the observations we made, and the intelligence we received, of between 3 and 400, where they effected to conceal themselves.

We had our fears respecting these shipping, and therefore kept a good watch upon them; but it was impossible for sentinels on this shore to detect them in boarding from the other, the vessels being in a net.

Capt. Rice, who commanded a boat of observation, was sent on board the shipping about nine o'clock, to order the rigging on shore, and was, without any noise, or the smallest knowledge of us, kidnapped. This we did not know till about half an hour afterwards. Two sailors, under pretence of coming on shore for clothes, gave information of the troops being on board the shipping, and of Rice's being taken. About 300 men were then immediately marched to Yamacraw, opposite the shipping, with three four pounders, and threw up a breast work. The armed schooner Hinchinbrook, of 12 guns, with a number of men on board (which, with others, went up the Back-river in the afternoon of the day preceding) about this time set sail down the South-river, with intent, no doubt, of covering the landing of the troops from on board the merchant shipping; but being continually fired at by two companies of rifle-men who were placed in ambuscade, she was obliged to come very slowly, and often came to, and returned a very smart fire at every place where the rifle-men fired from, until the tide was spent, and she could not get down. During the course of this firing only one of our men got wounded, and that slightly in the thigh; on board several were seen to fall.

In town we had exhibited a still more interesting scene. We found the officers and men clamorous about the capture and detention of Rice; and two gentlemen, lieutenant Daniel Roberts of the St. John's rangers, and Mr. Raymond Demeré of St. Andrew's parish, solicited, and were permitted, to go on board to demand a surrender of Rice and his people. They accordingly descended themselves of arms, and were rowed by a negro on board a vessel, in which were capt. Bar. lay the commodore, and major Grant; and these officers, contrary to all the principles which cement society, and govern mankind, immediately arrested our deputies, and yet detain them as prisoners. We waited with anxious expectation for near half an hour, when we demanded our deputies by the help of a trumpet, without getting any other but insulting answers. Whereupon we fired two 4 pounders directly into them, and then they informed us that they would send an answer in writing; which they presently after did, signed by lieutenant Roberts and Mr. Demeré, purporting, that if we would send two of the persons in whom the people most confided, they would treat with them.

Capt. Screven, of the St. John's rangers, and capt. Baker, of the St. Andrew's rifle-men, chagrined, no doubt (the former especially on account of his lieutenant) by the detention of our deputies, took about a dozen of rifle-men in a boat, and rowed directly under the stern of capt. Ingham, in whose vessel were a great number of soldiery, and peremptory terms demanded. They were answered, after one shot from the commodore, by a discharge down directly upon them, of near two hundred shot, both from swivels and small arms; which was kept up while they were in reach. The captains and men in the boat, not in the smallest degree confused, or even perhaps disappointed by the attack, fired their rifles, most of them three several times, and, as they say, not without execution; and, wonderful to tell, not a man of them killed. One man only received a slug in the fleshy part of his shoulder, which was immediately cut out, without the smallest inconvenience or danger; the spectators all declare, as we now do, that such a providential deliverance has not yet been known.

This unmanly attack, upon a few men in an open boat, produced a general fire from our field-pieces and intrenchments, and as smart a return from two 4 pounders and several swivels from the shipping, which lasted from about 11 o'clock till 4; and although they often fired language, which continually whistled about our men, not a single man was even touched; but we have no doubt a number of the enemy met with a worse fate, as they were seen to fall.

About four o'clock we called a council, and determined that the vessels immediately burnt, and issued orders to the militia accordingly. Whereupon the Inverness, late capt. McGillivray, loaded with rice and deer-skins, was set on fire, and cut loose. Upon this the soldiers, in the most laughable confusion, got ashore in the marsh, while our rifle men and field-pieces with grape shot were incessantly galling them. The shipping were now also in confusion. Some got up the river under cover of the armed schooner, while others caught the flame; and as night approached, exhibited a scene, as they passed and re-passed with the tide, which, in any other but the present times, would be truly horrible; but is now a subject only of gratulation and applause.

The ships of captains Inglis and Wardell, neither got up the river, or on fire. They were ordered on shore, and now are prisoners of capt. Screven, in the country, and their vessels brought down close to the wharf. They were permitted to write to capt. Barclay in the evening, to inform of their situation, and to request an exchange of prisoners, which the latter peremptorily refused.

We have thus given you a particular detail of things as they really happened, to prevent the belief of any erroneous intelligence, and from which you will be competent to judge of our situation.

Col. McIntosh laid before the board a resolution of your congress to aid us, accompanied by a letter from Mr. Lowndes; and we are very glad that you are determined to afford us further assistance. We wish it may arrive in time.

By order of the council of Safety,

WILLIAM EWEN, president.

To the Hon. the congress, or council of Safety for South Carolina.

Printed from the original,

By order of congress,

PETER TIMOTHY, secretary.

On Thursday last, a schooner, the *St. John's*, from Stanley, of this place, sailed from Georgetown for the 16th of January, in the brig Sally, captain King, and the 18th of February made the island of Martinique, where the vessel was seized by the French frigate, capt. Young, while she lay becalmed about 10 miles from the town of St. Pierre, and where she was taken on shore to obtain permission to land. As the schooner had anchored that night in the harbour of St. Pierre, and came out disguised like a merchantman. A sloop from Fairfield, in the same situation, was taken in company with the Sally.

Mr. Stanley informs, that several vessels arrived in the West-Indies from England while he was there, some of them in short passages, and that from all the prints he could see, and the accounts he could collect, there did not appear the most distant prospect of a reconciliation; but, on the contrary, the ministry were so determined, their majority in the house so great, and their influence among the people in general so extensive, that the few friends we had, and all hopes of their being able to effect a change in the favour of the deposed.

That 40 sail of transports, blown off the coast, had arrived at Antigua within a few weeks. Five of them had sailed for Boston, under convoy of the *Viper*; the remainder were to sail in a few days, under convoy of the *Hind*, and several vessels arrived in Antigua with guns, &c. purchased partly in St. Eustatia for that purpose.

That the English islands had been visited by distresses for provisions, which by the arrival of the vessels, chiefly provision, loaded and bound for foreign islands, been relieved by the ships of war, and sent into Antigua, St. Kitt's, Dominica, and Nevis; the inhabitants of which islands were so incensed against the Americans, that those who happened to be there were treated with the utmost severity. Some have been hanged and thrown into a dungeon; for only expressing their sentiments; others obliged to quit their property, and fly to the French for that protection they could not find among the English. An instance of the first kind happened in Antigua while Mr. Stanley was in the islands, in the imprisonment of a Mr. Campbell of New-York; and of the second of the flight of Mr. Peter Wykoff of Philadelphia, against whom an information was lodged by the attorney-general, that he had seen Mr. Peter Wykoff about twelve months before in Philadelphia. This was deemed high treason, as appears by a proclamation of governor Shirley, offering a reward of 500l. for apprehending him.

Among the many vessels seized under the prohibitory act are the following, viz. From New York, the sloop Sally, Dige, Charming Polly, Luxen, America, Campbell, and schooner Polly, Alfine, Rhode Island, capt. Sweet, Fairfield, sloop Diamond, Whitney, Salem, brig America, Lambert, Philadelphia, ship Nancy, Kirby, and brig, Gregg, North Carolina, brig Sally, Kidge, and schooner, James Green, cleared by governor Martin, Georgia, a brig, capt. Peane, Virginia, a brig, South Carolina, brig Union, Boyd, Connecticut, a sloop, capt. Jones, New York, a sloop, capt. Gibbs.

The cruisers are so exceedingly vigilant among the islands, that few vessels escape them. Notwithstanding which, a brig from Baltimore, a ship (libert, captain Monto) from Philadelphia, and two pilot boats from the same place, had got safe to St. Martin's and St. Eustatia early in this month.

The following quantities of powder were shipped from Martinique and Guadaloupe within a few weeks, besides large quantities from the Cape and St. Eustatia, which has caused that article to be as high as 5s. 6d. a pound, and none now to be had even at those extravagant prices.

For New London	20000	Five sail for N. London;	
For Maryland	7000	sent out by N. Shaw,	
For Piscataway	6000	account of the Uni-	
For ditto	5000	Colonies	40000
For ditto	5000	For Plymouth	4000
For Rhode Island	9000	For S. Carolina	20000
For Calco-Bay	3000	For N. Carolina	22000
			122000

WILLIAMSBURG, April 5.

The Duke of Cumberland Packet arrived a few days ago, from Falmouth, with government dispatches for lord Dunmore. It is said that the Duke of Cornwallis sailed about the same time, with a number of transports, under convoy of twelve frigates; the place of their destination uncertain. The packet was at South Carolina, but found lord William Campbell had left the province, and joined governor Martin at Cape Fear. Some gentlemen from below say, that soon after the arrival of this vessel they published a paper which was called a declaration of war against the colonies, and received it with loud acclamations.

It is reported, that lord Dunmore has sent to England, in the Duke of Cumberland packet, which sailed last Wednesday, four French gentlemen, who were lately taken in a vessel bound here from Cape Nicholas Mole, pretending he has found letters upon them which prove their business was to treat with the congress.

ANNAPOLIS, April 18.

MR. GREEN,

April 16, 1776.

ENCLOSED you have a copy of Mr. Johnson's much talked of intercepted letter; different parties having given it different constructions, makes it necessary that the whole be published, with a view that every person may read and judge for themselves; thereby frustrating the attempts of such as may be inclined to deceive by misrepresentations; you'll therefore please to give it a place in this week's Gazette, and you will oblige many of your customers, and particularly a constant one.

FROM THE PUBLIC ADVISER.

Monday, November 20, 1776.

Our Boston correspondent has favoured us with the following copy of an intercepted letter, from Thomas Johnson, jun. Esq; (one of the Maryland delegates to

of England on some of the most important business of the Congress) and their true nature for sending the petition, through cover by Mr. Smith, as well as of their correspondence with him.

Copy of a letter from Thomas Johnson, jun. to the Hon. the Council, dated Annapolis, April 15, 1775.

My dear Sir,

I RECEIVED yours of the 1st July, and, in a day or two afterwards, forwarded your letter to Mr. Gates, by my brother, with directions, if he had left Fredericktown, where she then was on a visit, and had no immediate good opportunity, to send a servant on purpose.

I shall be very unhappy that petitioning the king, to which measure I was a friend, should give you, or any one else, attached to the cause of America, and liberty, the least uneasiness. You, and I, and America in general, may almost universally wish, in the first place to establish our liberties; our second wish is a re-union with Great-Britain, so may we preserve the empire in tire, and the constitutional liberty, founded in whiggish principles, handed down to us by our ancestors. In order to strengthen ourselves to accomplish these great ends, we ought, in my opinion, to conduct ourselves so, as to unite America, and divide Britain; this, as it appears to me, may most likely be effected by doing rather more, than less, in the peaceable line; than would be required, if our petition is rejected, with contempt, which I think most likely. Will not our friends in England be still more exasperated against the court, and will not our very moderate men, on this side of the water, be compelled to own the necessity of opposing force by force? The rejection of the New York petition was very serviceable to America. If our petition should be granted, the troops will be recalled, the obnoxious acts repealed, and we returned to the footing of 1763. If the petition should not be granted, but is far attended to as to lay the ground-work of a negotiation, which must, I think, be ruined by the delay; if the subsidies at all, it must be by a most violent and sudden exertion of her force; and if we can keep up a strong party in England, headed by such characters as lord Chatham, and the others, in the present opposition; Bute, Mansfield, and North, and a corrupt majority, cannot draw the British force fully into action against us; our friends will certainly continue such, as long as they see we do not desire to break from a reasonable and beneficial connexion with the mother country; but, if, unhappily for the whole empire, they should once be convinced, by our conduct, that we design to break from that connexion, I am apprehensive, they will thenceforth become our most dangerous enemies; the greatest and first law of self preservation will justify, and compel it. The cunning Scotchmen and lord North fully feel the force of this reasoning; thence, their industry to make it be believed in England, that we have a scheme of independence, a general turn, they equivocally use, to signify to the friends of liberty, a breaking off all connexion; and to torrids, that we dispute the supremacy of parliament. In the declaratory act is the power of binding us, by its acts, in all cases whatever; the latter we do most certainly dispute, and I trust shall successfully fight against, with the approbation of every honest Englishman.

Lord North's proposition, and consequent resolution of parliament, were insidiously devised to wear the face of peace, and embarrass us in the choice of evils; either to accept and be slaves; or reject and increase the number and power of our enemies. I flatter myself that our petition will present to him only a choice of means injurious to his villainous schemes.

Our convention met the very day of my getting home, the meeting was very full, we sat close many days, by six o'clock in the morning, and by candle light in the evening. Our people were very prompt to do every thing desired; they have appropriated 100,000l. for the defence of this province, a great part of it to be laid out in the military line immediately, part contingently, and the rest for establishing manufactures of salt, salt petre, and gunpowder.

We have an association, ascertaining the necessity and justifiableness of repelling force by force, to be universally signed; and strict resolutions, with regard to our militia; which is to be as comprehensive here, as perhaps in any country in the world, when called to action. We are to be subject to the congressional rules and regulations for the army. A committee of safety composed of sixteen, is, in the recess of the convention, to have the supreme direction. We yet retain the forms of our government, but there is no real force or efficacy in them. The intelligence we have from England looks very threatening. I dare say this province will not hesitate to discharge all its duties, and go boldly into a contest.

I have not lately heard any thing particular from Virginia that can be depended on; their convention has had a long sitting, and I have no doubt but spirited measures, becoming themselves, and adequate to their circumstances, are adopted. We have the pleasure, now and then, to hear of your successful skirmishes. I hear that you have all your riflemen, and am particularly anxious to hear of your success. I have seen through our young men so much, that if the business proceeds, notwithstanding the scarcity of men in this and the southern provinces, I believe we must turnish you with a battalion or two; if, as I hope, those who are gone acquire reputation, many of our youth will be on fire; the difficulty now is to regulate and direct the spirit of the people at large; and I verily believe that, instead of their being discouraged by a check on our military achievements, a force rash would inflame them nearly to madness and desperation. I have already solicited your notice of several young gentlemen from Maryland; lieutenant Griffith, and Daniel Dorsey, volunteers with capt. Price's, and Frederick Kidge, with capt. Cresap's company, and a young man of connection with us; their fathers, with whom I have an intimacy and friendship, are ambitious that they should be regarded by you, and desire I should make a favourable mention of them with that view. You will not be surprised, the rank you hold in the opinion of my countrymen must make you a military father of the Maryland youth; I have not a personal acquaintance with these three young gentlemen, but in relation for the service is a powerful recommendation.

catch, to return again to their own country. ... late alarm twelve out of thirteen North-Britons, enrolled in one company, refused to march, on which they were alarmed; the alarm proved false, within an hour after the fatal discovery. I am very unwilling to do any thing harsh, but it is surely time to know who may be depended on. Under pretence of neutrality, our inveterate enemies will remain silent till we are off the hip, and then fall on like devils to overthrow us. ... I have done myself much pleasure in writing you this loose unconnected letter; and I shall have more, in knowing the length of it does not tire you. ... My best wishes attend you. I am,

My dear Sir,
Your most affectionate servant,
THOMAS JOHNSON, jun.

April 12, 1776.

Mr. GREEN,
BE pleased to give the following a place in your paper, and oblige

A CUSTOMER.

THE following queries, made for information, if answered, will oblige several (perhaps many) who from the present mode of transacting the public business of the province, had it not in their power to hear, or know, any reasons assigned for several resolutions of the Convention of this province, on which have been placed various constructions, and which, from circumstances, now call for a minute one.

Viz. When the Convention, in July 1775, resolved that "every able bodied, effective freeman within this province, between sixteen and fifty years of age (except as therein excepted) shall enroll himself in some company of militia, &c." whether they intended that any person exceeding the age of fifty years, who signed the enrollment, should be bound thereby, or whether from the words of the enrollment he could not plead his exemption, as being not enrolled "agreeable to the resolutions of the Convention, held at Annapolis the 26th day of July, 1775?"

Also, When they resolved that "if a number of men shall be enrolled not amounting to fifty privates, besides sufficient for non commissioned officers, for any one company, they shall not be considered as a company;" and again, "that no company be permitted to choose officers, before a sufficient number of men be enrolled, to make up fifty privates, besides non-commissioned officers;" whether they intended that number to be able bodied, effective men, who would be able, and obliged to perform the exercise; and if occasion required, march to any part of the province? or whether they intended it to be made up of those who are not able, and actually do not bear arms in the common muster field? or whether, if commissions be granted by virtue of such enrollments together with the names of persons who cannot be found, so that a company consist of about thirty privates only, it will be considered and carried as a company? and whether, if it should, it may not tend to deceive this province, say the committee, in point of strength?

Answer to the above is asked by
AN INHABITANT OF PATUXENT HUNDRED,
ANNE-ARUNDEL COUNTY.

April 16, 1776.

To be sold at public vendue, by the subscriber, on Thursday the 16th day of May next, on the premises, for sterling or current money, at the general exchange,

PART of a tract of land called Duvall's range, conveyed to the subscriber for 276 acres more or less, situate in Anne-Arundel county, on the east side of the north branch of Patuxent river. On this land are two tenements, with plenty of good board, shingle and rail timber; forty acres of good meadow may be made on the said land, with very little trouble; the tenements are in good repair and produce very fine tobacco and Indian corn. Twelve months credit will be given the purchaser, on giving bond on interest with security if required. The land may be viewed any time before the day of sale by applying to the subscriber, son of DA

THE noted half blooded horse, Frederick Jones, full fifteen and a half hands high, a fine dapple gray, eight years old, strong, active and boney, stands at Notley-hall, Prince-George's county, and will cover at thirty shillings the season. Good stuff for mares gratis.

Bladensburg, April 10, 1776.

RAN away last night from the subscriber, an indentured servant named John Teafdale, an English man, about twenty-two years of age, five feet six or seven inches high, well set, of a fair complexion and good countenance, wears his own short straight hair of a dark brown colour, and is by trade a cooper: he had on a blue farnought sailor's top jacket about half worn, a waistcoat of London brown cloth, and ragged breeches of strong superfine dark drab cloth, a check shirt, and an old small brim'd dirty felt hat bound round the edging with white canvas. Whoever secures said servant and brings him to me shall receive forty shillings reward and all reasonable charges.

WILLIAM SYDEBOTHAM.

of Kingston in Baltimore county, deceased, are desired to make immediate payment, to enable us to discharge his will, and all those who have claims against him are desired to exhibit them properly authenticated, to

T. RUSSELL
and
JAMES SMITH, } executors.

THERE is at the plantation of Isaac Simmonds, near Herring-bay, in Anne-Arundel county, taken up as a stray, a dark bay horse, near fifteen hands high, a star in his forehead, has many white spots on his back, supposed to be hurt with a saddle, a bit of his right ear cut off, his mane hangs on the wrong side, his off hind foot white, shoes on about half worn, branded but cannot make it out. The owner may have him again on showing property and paying charges.

Harford county, March 21, 1776:
TAKEN up as a stray, a bright bay mare, about nine years old, thirteen hands and a half high, no brand appears, paces and trots, short dock. Any person proving property and paying charges may have her again.

JOHN RACA.

JEREMIAH SATCHWELL, in West-street, Annapolis, to the military gentlemen.

AS the use of arms is become absolutely necessary for the preservation of American liberty, this is to inform the above gentlemen, that he makes all sorts of silver and fine metal sword hilts; likewise cleans and repairs the same. Those gentlemen who please to favour him with their custom, may depend on having their work done with the greatest punctuality and at the most reasonable rate, which he hopes will give satisfaction to the public in general, having served a regular apprenticeship to the said branches in London.

N. B. All sorts of silversmith work done also.

April 10, 1776.

CARELESS S, STANDS the ensuing season at Strawberry-hill, within one mile of Annapolis, and will cover mares at six dollars the season, if pastured; four dollars, if not pastured; or two dollars, the single lepp. CARELESS is a fine bay, rising five years, upwards of fourteen hands two inches, and was got by col Baylor's Farnought; his dam by Dove, his grand-dam by Othello, his great-grand-dam by old Spark, out of the high bred mare Queen Mab, who was the dam of col. Hopper's Pacolet. Good grafs for mares. Indian corn will be taken in payment at 2 s. 6 d. per bushel, delivered at Strawberry-hill before the first of July, by

THOMAS WILLIAMSON,
P. S. I will be answerable for no mares that may get away.

Bladensburg, April 1, 1776.

I HAVE for disposal, on very reasonable terms, a servant man, who has about three years to serve. He was bred a cutler, is an ingenious fellow in his business, and can do any country blacksmith's work: He might be very useful to any person in the gun or locksmith business.

JAMES HOGGAN.

Prince-George's county, April 1, 1776.

WAS found in the possession of one of my negroes, a jockey coat of double mill'd drab cloth, the collar lined with velvet, and the cape with shalloon the colour of the cloth. As I suspect the coat to have been stole, the person who has lost it, on proving his property and paying the charge of this advertisement, may have it by applying to

THOMAS GANTT.

SIX DOLLARS REWARD.

STRAYED away from the widow M'Donnell's, between Baltimore and Annapolis, on Thursday night the 13th of March, out of the fodder house, a bay horse, about 14 hands and an half high, paces, trots, and gallops, marked CS on his left shoulder. Whoever takes up said horse, and brings him to capt. Samuel Maynard's at Herring-Creek, or to William Hayes, Fell's Point, Baltimore, shall receive the above reward, and reasonable charges paid if brought home.

Patuxent Iron-Works, February 6, 1776.

BEING desirous of settling the estate of our father, RICHARD SNOWDEN, late of Patuxent Iron-Works, deceased, we request all such as are indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, as no longer indulgence will be given them. Also all persons that are indebted to the Patuxent Iron-Works Company, of more than twelve months standing, are requested to come immediately and make payment; and those who have it not in their power to make immediate payment, it is expected they will come and settle their accounts by note or bond. If the above requests are not complied with, we shall take such methods as will compel a settlement, without respect to persons, although it will be disagreeable to

SAMUEL and JOHN SNOWDEN.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION

OF THE PROVINCE OF MARYLAND,
Held at the City of Annapolis, on Thursday the 7th of December, 1775.

PREROGATIVE OFFICE,
March 11, 1776.

WHEREAS the records of the commissary's office are removed to Upper Marlborough, by the direction of the Council of Safety for the province of Maryland, I am directed to give this public notice, that the common business of that office will from henceforth be transacted at that place.

And as the commissary's courts are by law appointed to be held at the city of Annapolis, where the same must indispensably be continued, the commissary general, anxious to relieve as far as in his power the difficulties arising to the people, from the removal of the records to such distance from the capital, hath resolved to attend at both places in every court week, which will be on the second Tuesdays of May, July, September, and November; and to that end, will hold his courts every second Tuesday in said months at the city of Annapolis, for the convenience of the inhabitants of the Eastern shore, and others whom it may bet suit. And he will from thence proceed on the Thursday to Upper Marlborough, there to sit during the remainder of the week for the dispatch of public business.

I also give notice, that for the greater ease and convenience of the inhabitants of Anne-Arundel county, who may have business with me as deputy commissary of that county, I shall give attendance every Tuesday at the house of Mr. Cornelius Garretson in the city of Annapolis for that purpose.

ELIE VALLETTE, register.

Charles town, Cecil County, March 19, 1776.

THIS day was committed to my custody, on suspicion of being a runaway, by the name of Andrew Sandford, an Irishman, about 25 years of age, 5 feet 9 or ten inches high, long black hair tied behind: has on a light coloured coat and waistcoat, brown cloth breeches, a half worn beaver hat, blue ribb'd yarn stockings, and old shoes. He says he has been three years in this country, and worked a considerable time as a journeyman barber with Mr. John James in Philadelphia, and from last harvest until this time with Mr. Clements, barber in Baltimore-town. His master, if any, is dead, and he has no pay charges, and takes his way for any of the above gentlemen can make it out, that he is a freeman, he will be released according to law.

JAMES ORRICK, Sheriff of Cecil county.

Wanted immediately, delivered at the contractor's store in Annapolis,

A QUANTITY of potatoes, parsnips, carrots, beans, cockle beans, or any kind of Indian peas, for which will be given the highest prices, by ISAAC MYHARD, for Mr. ROBERT CUMMINS.

TO BE SOLD.

A VALUABLE tract of land, containing 130 acres more or less, situated upon Rock creek in Frederick county, within four miles of George town and eight of Bladensburg, 120 acres whereof are in wood, and the remainder inclosed by a good fence; there are about ten acres of the aforesaid land may be made good meadow with little trouble. I have likewise for sale 25 acres of land near or adjoining the town of Upper Marlborough, in Prince-George's county, with good improvements thereon, and a valuable mill in good repair, and grinds all seasons. For terms apply to Robert Whitaker near the aforesaid town, or William Belt in Frederick county.

Annapolis, March 26, 1776.

RAN away from the subscriber, an indentured servant lad, named Edward Busford, born in Hampshire, about five feet two inches high, fair complexion and brown hair: had with him two cloth coats, one a London brown, the other of coarse light coloured cloth with waistcoat of the same, much worn, good buckskin breeches, ribb'd worked stockings and English made shoes. He is very fond of liquor, and can give no better reason for his elopement, than that he often merited chastisement and never received it. Should he be taken ten miles from home I will give 20 shillings reward on his return.

J. CLAPHAM.

ABRAHAM CLAUDE,

WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, and SILVERSMITH,
Opposite Mrs. Johnson's tavern, ANNAPOLIS.

BEGS leave to acquaint the public in general, and his friends in particular, that he still continues to carry on the aforesaid trades in all their various branches, and at the most reasonable rates: also that he cleans and repairs all sorts of fire-arms, (small swords, hangers, and cutlasses: He also makes hooks for swords in the neatest and most approved manner.

N. B. He has several grots of hoot-an-ways to dispose of cheap.